

Allred Family Newsletter

Official Publication of the "Allred Family Organization, Inc."

Mission Statement:

**Identify and Unite the Allred Family through Gathering,
Storing and Sharing Information**



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Issue No. 69

Allreds and the American Revolution: Part I

Several Allred family researchers were aware that Allreds participated in the American Revolution in the Carolinas. The pension application for Elias Allred, a son of Thomas and Elizabeth Allred, was found in the National Archives in Washington, D.C.

In another pension application for Abraham Elliot, Eli Allred, younger brother of both Elias and William Allred, said that his brother, William, had participated with a neighbor, Abraham Elliot, in a skirmish near Salisbury, North Carolina.

However, written records of their unit, other than that of Elias Allred, in his pension application, were not found. The militia unit Captain, John Luttrell, was killed in Tory activity in September 1781. A typed transcript of information and a roster by the Captain John Hinds were in the Randolph Room of the Randolph County, North Carolina, Public Library in Asheboro. However, some of the names may not have been transcribed properly. In the late 1790s, Captain Hinds, a Justice of the Peace in Randolph County, moved into eastern Tennessee near Knoxville. A relative of his had placed his papers in the Kathleen Parkman Lamb Collection at the McClung Historical Collection, Knox County Public Library

System, Tennessee.

A search of his papers produced a handwritten roster. It contained the names of four Allred men. The roster is reproduced on page 9. It lists James Alred, William Alred, Elias Alred and John Alred.

James, William, Elias and John were the four oldest sons of Thomas and Elizabeth Allred. John Allred, their cousin, was the son of William Allred, also known as the "original William."

Most of this issue is devoted to the Patriot cause of these four men. Included is the pension application for Elias Allred on page 6-7. Elias Allred mentions the skirmish on the Yadkin River and also mentions that after his three-month militia service, he was often called upon under the same officers to serve for several days. There was considerable Tory activity in central North Carolina where Randolph County is located.

Also included is information on the Southern Campaign of the American Revolution, what the history books said about the Yadkin skirmish and quotes from letters to George Washington and Thomas Jefferson that mention the skirmish.

Alice Allred Pottmyer

Allreds: A Divided Family During the American Revolution

The next issue of the Allred Family Newsletter, No. 70., will discuss the Tory, Loyalist or British sympathizer activity of some members of the Allred family.

It was very common during the American Revolution for family members to disagree on their loyalties. There is evidence both pro and con regarding the possibility that a branch of the Allred family had British Loyalists ties.

Part II will explore this possibility. Linda Allred Cooper has researched and written this section.

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American Revolution: Southern Campaign

The American Revolution was at a stalemate. In 1780 after five years of fighting, Lord Charles Cornwallis, commander of the British Army, decided to take the campaign south. There were Loyalists near the coast and supplies were good. Cornwallis expected an easy victory. He quickly retook Charleston, South Carolina. A few months later, he seriously defeated the Americans forces under General Horatio Gates at Camden, South Carolina.

Major General Nathanael Greene was the Revolutionary War general responsible for recapturing the lower South from British control. He is considered by most to be the best strategist of the American Revolution and one of the greatest military minds the United States has ever produced.

On October 14, 1780, he succeeded General Horatio Gates as Commander-in-Chief of the Southern Army, and took command at Charlotte, North Carolina, on December 2. The army was weak and badly equipped and was opposed by a superior force under Cornwallis. Greene decided to divide his own troops, thus forcing the division of the British as well, and creating the possibility of a strategic interplay of forces. This strategy led to General Daniel Morgan's victory at Cowpens on January 17, 1781, and to the battle at Guilford Court House, North Carolina (March 15), after having weakened the British troops by continual movements, and drawn in reinforcements for his own army, Greene was defeated, but inflicted a great loss of men to Cornwallis. Three days after this battle, Cornwallis withdrew toward Wilmington. Greene's generalship and judgment were again illustrated in the next few weeks, in which he allowed Cornwallis to march north to Virginia and Greene turned swiftly to the reconquest of the inner country of South Carolina. This he achieved by the end of June, in spite of a reverse sustained at Lord Rawdon's hands at Hobkirk's Hill (2 miles north of Camden) on April 25. This action forced the British to the coast.

Greene then gave his forces a six weeks' rest on the High Hills of the Santee River, and on September 8, with 2,600 men, engaged the British under Lieutenant Colonel James Stuart at Eutaw Springs. Americans who fell in this battle were immortalized by American author Philip Freneau in his 1781 poem "To the Memory of Brave Americans." The battle, although tactically a draw, so weakened the British that they withdrew to Charleston,

where Greene penned them during the remaining months of the war. Greene's Southern campaign showed remarkable strategic features. He excelled in dividing, eluding and tiring his opponent by long marches, and in actual conflict forcing him to pay heavily for a temporary advantage a price that he could not afford. He was greatly assisted by able subordinates, including the Polish engineer, Tadeusz Kooeciuszko, the brilliant cavalry captains, Henry ("Light-Horse Harry") Lee and William Washington, as well as, Thomas Sumter and Francis Marion.

Greene was able, and like other prominent generals on the American side, a self-trained soldier. He was second only to Washington among the officers of the American army in military ability, and the only general, other than Washington, to serve the entire eight years of the war. Like Washington, he had the great gift of using small means to the utmost advantage. His attitude towards the British was humane and even kindly: he even generously defended Gates, who had repeatedly intrigued against him, when Gates's conduct of the campaign in the South was criticized. Immediately after taking command, he sent people to map the rivers and look for suitable crossings in the western areas of the Carolinas. This was used to the advantage of the Americans several times, including the skirmish at the Yadkin River where four Allred men were involved.

After the war was won, South Carolina and Georgia voted Greene liberal grants of lands and money, including an estate, Boone's Barony, south of Edisto in Bamberg County. This he sold to meet bills for the rations of his Southern army. On his Georgia estate, Mulberry Grove, 14 miles above Savannah, he settled in 1785, after twice refusing the post of Secretary of War. He died there on June 19, 1786, of sunstroke.

Allred Family Organization Newsletter Articles about Allreds and the American Revolution

Revolutionary War Allreds. Submitted by Dawnell Griffin, Issue No. 30, Page 17.

John Allred's Revolutionary War Pension Application. Submitted by Linda Allred Cooper, Issue No. 41, Page 3.
Elias Allred, Sr.: Son of Thomas, Revolutionary War Soldier and Georgia Settler, by Daniel Forbes-Forysthe. Issue No. 46, page 4-5.

Clues from a Neighbor's Pension Application. Submitted by Teri Cochran Allred, Issue No. 48, page 11.
Allreds in the American Revolution, by Linda Allred Cooper, Issue No. 59, pages 5-9.

Allred Family Organization

The Allred Family Newsletter is a member benefit of the AFO.

Editor: Alice Allred Pottmyer
5540 North 32nd Street
Arlington, VA 22207-1535
pottmyera@aol.com

Carolina Back Country Timeline: The American Revolution

Allred Involvement Noted

May 1771—Alamance, North Carolina

Prior to the revolution, backcountry farmers (known as Regulators because they wanted to regulate the unfair taxation policy) battled the British Royal Governor Tryon's Troops. *Several Allreds were involved in this battle.*

May 1780—Charleston, South Carolina

Fall of Charleston to the British.

May 1780—Bufford's Massacre, South Carolina

Retreating American troops slain by Col. Banastre Tarleton's troops earned him the nickname "Bloody Tarleton."

June 1780—Ramseur's Mill, North Carolina

Outnumbered almost 3 to 1, the Patriots routed the Loyalists, prior to Lord Cornwallis' move into North Carolina.

July 1780—Huck's Defeat, South Carolina

Patriots from both Carolinas surround and destroy 150 loyalists under Capt. Christian Huck. This victory, a major morale booster, sparked the beginning of the end of British fortunes in the Carolinas.

August 1780—Hanging Rock South Carolina

On August 1, Maj. William R. Davie routed a British force, followed by Sumter's August 6 attack culminating in a draw.

August 1780—Camden, South Carolina

Decisive British victory under Lord Cornwallis. Preparations now made to move into North Carolina.

August 1780—Fishing Creek, South Carolina

"Bloody Tarleton" strikes again killing 150 patriots.

September 1780—Charlotte, North Carolina

Lord Cornwallis occupies Charlotte after heated skirmish with Patriots under Maj. Davie.

October 1780—Kings Mountain, South Carolina

A decisive victory for Patriot forces over Major Patrick Ferguson. This battle was the first link in a chain of events that led to the final defeat of the British.

November 1780—Fishdam Ford, South Carolina

Gen. Sumter's Patriots inflict heavy casualties on troops, 25 miles from British headquarters in Winnsboro.

November 1780—Blackstocks, South Carolina

Gen. Sumter's men defeat Col. Tarleton and his men. Gen. Sumter was wounded.

December 1780—Charlotte, North Carolina

American General Nathaniel Greene takes command of the Southern troops from General Horatio Gates.

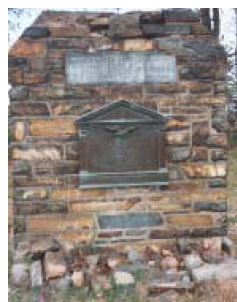
January 1781—Cowpens, South Carolina

General Daniel Morgan brilliantly deployed the Patriot force at a regional livestock gathering area known as the "cow" pens. They soundly defeated the British under Col. Banastre Tarleton. This was Col. Tarleton's first major defeat.

February 1781—Trading Ford, North Carolina

On February 2-3, the Patriot forces under Gen. Greene, crossed the Yadkin River seven miles from Salisbury. Under cold and rainy conditions, 1,800 men and supplies crossed the river. About 150 North Carolina and Virginia riflemen were held back to engage the British Forces of Lord Cornwallis if they appeared. At dark, British forces appeared and were surprised by the Patriots. They "fired two rounds" and then got onto the remaining flat boats and canoes and crossed the river. The next morning, the river had risen two feet and was too high and swift to cross. *Four Allred men were part of the North Carolina unit that engaged the British.*

Monument to the American Forces under General Nathanael Greene near the February 2-3, 1781, crossing on the Yadkin River in Davidson County, NC. It was placed there in 1929 by local citizens.



February 1781—Cowans' Ford, North Carolina

Lord Cornwallis' troops crossed at Cowan's Ford and the Patriots under Gen. Davidson tried to stop them. Davidson was killed and the Americans broke ranks and fled.

February 1781—Pyle's Defeat, North Carolina

Loyalist troops, enroute to join Lord

Cornwallis' army in Hillsborough, met Patriot militia. The outnumbered Loyalists were massacred with more than 90 men killed.

March 1781—Battle of Clapp's Mill, North Carolina

Col. Henry Lee (Lighthorse Harry Lee) and his men ambushed Col. Tarleton's cavalry. The skirmish resulted in 17 deaths for the British and eight for the Patriots.

March 1781—Battle of Guilford Courthouse, North Carolina

A major battle between Gen. Greene and Lord Cornwallis. Americans withdrew and British claimed victory. However, Cornwallis lost more than one quarter of his army and could not remain in North Carolina as an occupying force.

May 22-June 18, 1781—Ninety Six, South Carolina

Longest battle of the American Revolution, ending when Gen. Greene withdrew Patriot forces shortly before arrival of British reinforcements to the fort.

August 1781—House in the Horseshoe, North Carolina

Skirmish between Tories and Patriots who were camped at the house. Tories tried to set the house on fire. Patriots surrendered after casualties on both sides.

September 13, 1781—Cane Creek, North Carolina

Col. John Luttrell, was the colonel with the militia unit that served Randolph County, North Carolina, and surrounding areas. *At least four Allred men were in his unit.* He was active against the Tories. Col. Luttrell was killed at Cane Creek in an engagement with David Fanning, the Tory leader in that area. Luttrell died the next day, September 14. The battle was also known as Lindley's also known as

Mill. It took place in Alamance County. There is no indication the four Allred men were at Cane Creek/Lindley's Mill.

October 1781—Battle of Yorktown, Virginia

The British forces of Lord Cornwallis were defeated by the American forces led by General George Washington. Guilford Courthouse proved to be the highwater mark of British military operations in the Revolutionary War. Weakened in his campaign against Greene and pushed into the far west of the Piedmont area of the Carolinas, Cornwallis abandoned the Carolinas hoping for success in Virginia. At Yorktown, seven months after his victory at Guilford Courthouse, the British surrendered to the combined American and French forces under General George Washington October 19, 1781.

Randolph County, North Carolina: American Revolution

The Battle of Alamance in 1771 was the first battle of the American Revolution. It is often overlooked in history books and if mentioned, it is a few lines.

By 1766, North Carolina citizens began to organize against unfair taxation and the dishonesty of local officials responsible for collecting taxes. Taxes also had to be paid in hard money. Most marketing and trading of the time was done by barter. People had very little money of any kind.

The Regulator story is very much a part of the history of Randolph County even though it occurred a few years before the county was established. Herman Husband, a Quaker and citizen of the Sandy Creek area of the county, distributed pamphlets and petitions for signature to take to the Royal Governor.

Beginning in 1766, the Regulators (those that wanted the unfair taxes regulated), petitioned the governor for meetings. Several Allreds were involved in the cause against the injustice. Governor William Tryon consistently refused to meet with any of the Regulator leaders.

By January of 1771, Governor Tryon decided to order his militia to put down the “rebellion” and in March he marched from New Bern to Hillsborough collecting troops along the way. When he learned that the Regulators were gathering near the Great Alamance Creek, he led his men in that direction.

The Regulators were not prepared to fight. Most were

unarmed, for they were writing yet another petition and were hoping to convince the governor by their show of numbers.

However on May 16, 1771, the two groups were 25 yards apart and firing began. The Regulators lost an unknown number of men who are buried on the battleground.

Herman Husband and other leaders left the state. After the battle, the British Army marched to the properties of the leaders, including Herman Husband. His home, buildings and crops were all destroyed by fire. Neighbors of Herman Husband were John and Thomas Allred. William Allred’s property was close by. More than likely their properties also suffered from the fires.

By mid-June, more than 3,000 Regulators either signed the Oath of Allegiance to the British Crown or moved into South Carolina or what is now Eastern Tennessee. Those leaving the state were approximately 1,600.

The Battle of Alamance and the unfair taxation was noted by Colonists in New England suffering from unfair taxation. The Boston Tea Party, the revolt against unfair taxes was in 1773. The Battle of Lexington and Concord in Massachusetts was in 1775. The Continental Congress met in Philadelphia and the Declaration of Independence was signed July 4, 1776. When Randolph County was formed in 1779 from Guilford County, the nation was already four years into the revolution.

Tory Activity in Randolph County and an Allred Response

Colonel David Fanning was loyal to the King of England and despised all men who sought to become independent of English sovereignty. He and his militia were active in Randolph County and the surrounding areas from the summer of 1781 through September 1782. Even though the victory at Yorktown, Virginia, was in October of 1781, the British continued their efforts in many parts of the country until 1782.

Randolph County was no exception. Fanning was born in North Carolina in 1754. He went to South Carolina after the beginning of the Revolution. He became a Tory in South Carolina and fought there until 1781 when he returned to North Carolina. He made his headquarters in Randolph and Chatham Counties, camping in the Bush Creek—Deep River area.

John and William Allred and the Tories
The following is an incident that William Allred and his son, John, had with Colonel Fanning and some of his troops: When the Revolutionary war came, John Allred shouldered his flintlock rifle and fought for the freedom of the American colonies to the end of the war. As a resident of Randolph County, he enlisted in the spring of 1781 as a private and

volunteer in the cavalry under Capt. Thomas Doogan for the purpose of subduing and putting down one Colonel David Fanning, a Tory in the Royal Militia, who, with a band of outlaws, conducted a campaign of guerrilla warfare against the colonists in and around Randolph County, North Carolina, burning houses, pillaging and murdering, from 1775 to 1783. Allred served for approximately 12 months until the spring of 1782. His fighting against the British aroused the anger of Col. David Fanning, the leader of the Tories or British sympathizers, and he and his band of men went to the homestead in search of John, who happened to be at home. He saw them coming, snatched his gun and secreted himself in the attic. It so happened that they did not go up there to search for him. William Allred also saw them approaching, took up his gun and ran out northwest of the house and lay down behind a large rock. He could see Fanning and his men from his hiding place when they went out to his crib, later opened the crib door and let many barrels of corn run out, did the same at another log crib, then turned their horses loose in the lot to eat and trample the corn into the red mud. When they had eaten all

they wanted them to have, they saddled their horses and rode towards the western part of the county. Fanning was eventually driven out of North Carolina. He fled to South Carolina and then to Florida.

From there he fled with his family to New Brunswick, Canada. He died on the island of Nova Scotia in 1825.

Note: The property of William Allred is still a farm. His original log home where his son, John, hid is gone. However, the large rock William hid behind is visible on the property. Fortunately relatives of William and John Allred knew the story and recorded it. It is likely that similar incidents happened to the families of Thomas and John Allred because they and their families were active Patriots. Colonel Fanning and his troops often burned and pillaged homes of Patriots.

SOURCES: (1) Family history recollections, written by Rev. Brazilla Caswell Allred in 1922, and published in “The Searcher”, Vol. VI, No. 2 (So. Calif. Genealogical Society, 1969) The Reverend was the brother of William Franklin Allred of Randolph County, North Carolina. (2) Certified Statement of Mary C. Allred Jones, dated 22 Apr 1929, found among the papers of Dora Belle Jones Cross on 16 Oct 1977.

American Revolution Skirmish of Four Allreds

From December 1780 through the end of February 1781, four Allred men were with their North Carolina Militia unit with the forces of General Nathanael Greene near the Cheraw Hills in South Carolina. General Greene was commander of the American forces in the South.

Four of the men were the sons of Thomas Allred: James, William, Elias and John. The Calvary members furnished their own horses.

Colonel Banastre Tarleton, defeated at the Battle of Cowpens in South Carolina, January 15, 1781, was heading north and chasing the Americans under the command of General Daniel Morgan that had just defeated them. During the Battle of Cowpens, Lord Charles Cornwallis and his forces were 25 miles behind Tarleton's forces. The Tarleton and Cornwallis forces had joined together as they advanced northward into North Carolina in pursuit of the Americans.

After the victory of Cowpens, Gen. Greene began marching his Army to join with the forces of General Daniel Morgan. Gen. Greene sent the Calvary Militia unit from North Carolina ahead because the horse unit could move faster. They followed the Pedee River north to Salisbury. General Greene, with his army followed. The Calvary militia made a rapid march to meet with and assist Morgan. The Morgan forces were "retreating from Wallis." In Salisbury, the North Carolina Cavalry Militia unit found Morgan with his army marching through town.

It was cold and rainy and was miserable for all concerned. On February 1, 1781, the Americans marched through Salisbury, North Carolina, and headed seven miles north to the Trading Ford, a crossing place on the Yadkin River. The Americans gathered all the flat boats they could and began crossing the 1,800 men and supplies, etc. They crossed for two days.

On February 2, 1781, Gen. Morgan sent the North Carolina Company of Calvary with about 100 of his riflemen from Virginia to guard the river crossing until the main army could be ferried across the Yadkin River.

On February 3, Cornwallis himself arrived in Salisbury and discovered the Americans were almost across the river. He sent a contingent to stop what they could. It was nearly midnight and still raining. The British were not in familiar territory. About 100 Virginia rifleman and about 50 North Carolina Militiamen (including the four Allred men) were hiding in the bushes and behind trees to fire upon the British. According to the pension application of Elias Allred, "we fired two rounds" and then got on the flat boats to the other side of the Yadkin. The date of this skirmish was very late on February 3, 1781.

The British decided to cross in the morning. Because of the heavy rains, the river rose two feet over night. The current was very strong and the river was full of big trees and other debris. It was then too dangerous to cross. The

British headed west along the river. They were able to cross in five or six days.

However, the three month militia term for the Allreds and their unit was up. They returned to Randolph County (about 50 miles away).

The Americans were able to travel across North Carolina even though they were closely followed by the British and then regroup, re-supply and recruit just over the Dan River in Virginia.

The two forces met at Guilford Courthouse on March 15, 1781, and fought. The British won the first day, but they lost 504 men in the fighting. Cornwallis decided not to fight the next day because he "could not afford any more victories like that." He marched his forces eastward toward Wilmington, North Carolina. They spent two days at Bell's Mill in Randolph County near the Deep River in an attempt to rest and re-supply.

In the fall of 1781, the Cornwallis forces arrived in Yorktown, Virginia, and planned to get on British ships. However, the French Navy was in the Chesapeake Bay and the Continental Army and Militia were behind him on land. The British surrendered October 19, 1781.

Both James and William Allred died before the pension act was passed by Congress in 1832. William died in 1824 in Bedford County, Tennessee. Fortunately, Elias lived long enough to file a pension. Neither of his older brothers nor his cousin, John, are named in his application. However, Elias provides us with a wealth of information about their unit.

Another neighbor, Abraham Eliot, filed a pension. In one of his affidavits, Eli Allred (much younger brother of William, James, Elias and John) said that his brother, William, was in a small skirmish with Eliot near Salisbury.

The skirmish on the Yadkin River was important more for what didn't happen than for what did. General Greene had planned to reunite his forces in Salisbury and then face Cornwallis there. However, the rapid pace of the pursuing British foiled his plan. An engagement with less than the full American army could have been disastrous, especially if the Americans had been caught with their back to the Yadkin River, or with a force fragmented while the crossing was occurring. The successful crossing of the Yadkin afforded him time to reach Virginia where he was able to re-supply his men and face Cornwallis in the Battle of Guilford Courthouse in North Carolina.

In his pension application, Elias Allred, see pages 6-7, said that after his discharge he substituted another three months for another man. After that Elias Allred returned home to Randolph County. He again served the same captain and was frequently called on and was out sometimes two or three days at a time.

More than likely the other three Allred men were also called upon for this type of service. Randolph County had a number of Tories that were terrorizing the area.

Elias Allred Pension Application

Elias Allred, third son of Thomas and Elizabeth Allred, filed a pension request for his service in the North Carolina Militia during the American Revolution. The application describes his tour of duty as well as providing other clues about the Allred family.

The transcription of the handwritten pension application by Dawnell H. Griffin is below. The description by Elias is consistent with the history books about the skirmish on the Yadkin River.

Pension Record of Elias Allred
National Archives
Washington, D.C.
S16307 Pen

[FHL MF #970,047]
Elias Allred, Senr.
Hall County , Georgia

Certificate of Pension issued the 13th day of Nov. 33
Arrears to the 4th of Sept 1833 56.25
Coms, allowance ending 4 mar 34 11.25
\$67.50
Recorded by Math: Rece Book E. Vol. 6 page 85

State of Georgia
County of Hall on this the 7th day of June
Eighteen hundred and thirty three personally appeared
before John Bates, John M Mcapree & Wiley E. Wood
Justices of the inferior Court of Said County Elias Allred
Senr. a resident of Hall County & State of Georgia aged
seventy five years the 6th day of May last agreeable to a
record of his age kept by his parents who being first duly
sworn according to Law doth on his Oath make the
following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the
provision (made by the act of congress passed June 7
1832) That he entered the service of the United States
under the following named officers and served as herein
stated. That he was drafted into the service of the United
States about the first of December in the year Seventeen
hundred and eighty for a three month tour of duty under
Capt. John Hinds who command a Company of Horse
(deponent furnishing his own horse) and was attached to
Col. John Lettrells Regiment Majr.Gholston also
belonged to second Regiment and was marched to where
General Greens army were Stationed near the Cheraw
Hills in the State of South Carolina from thence we
marched up Pedee River to Salisbury in North Carolina
leaving Genl. Green with his army to follow We made a
rapid march to meet with and assist Col. Morgan who was
retreating from Wallis (after having defeated Tarlton at the

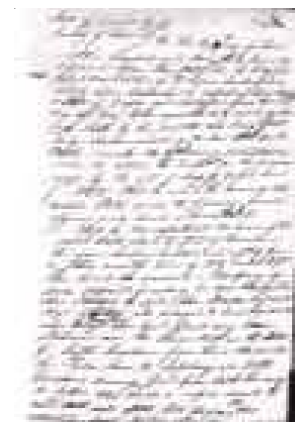
Cowpens) when we reached Salisbury we found Col.
Morgan With his army marching through town. who
placed the company of cavelry to I belonged together with
about eighty of his riflemen to guard until the main army
could be ferried across the Yadkin River, but just about
the time the last baggage waggon got on bord the Flat a
party of Wallis' men said to be about one thousand came
upon us we fired two rounds and retreated and on the
next day joined Col. Littrel marched to the Barrachs and
in two or three days was discharged the time for which I
was drafted having expired.

Just a few days after getting my discharge I was
substituted in place of a man by the name of John Sitten
for a three months tour of duty in the Cavalry again and
under the same officers and was marched to & fro
through the State of North Carolina keeping down the
Tories and was in one pretty smart skirmish with the
Tories which was command by a Col. Fanning a noted
Tory. I think this tour of duty was command about the
first April 1781 having served out this tour of duty. I with
several others of the same company agreed to stand as
what was termed minute men subject to the call of the
same Captain and was frequently called on and was out
sometimes two or three days at a time. I have no
documentary evidence and know of no person by whom I
can prove any service except John Duncan whose
affadavit is annexed. I hereby relinquish any claim to a
pension or annuity except the present Declaration his
name is not on the pension of rolls of agency of any State.

- 1st I was born the State of North Carolina but am
not positive which in Randolph or Orange
County on the 6th day of May 1758
- 2nd I have no record of my age though have seen one
made in Book kept by my father which is worn
out or lost
- 3rd I was living in Randolph County North Carolina
when called into service. I remained in the State
of North Carolina until the year 1815 then
removed to the State of South Carolina
Pendleton District. remained there until the year
1827. then removed to Hall County State of
Georgia where I now live.
- 4th I was drafted into the first tour of duty and the
Second I substituted
- 5th I recollect to have seen Green a Capt Skinner and
a Genrl Stephens from Virginia but cannot say
whether Genl. Stephens was a regular officer or
not

- 6th I received a discharge from Capt Heins for first tour of duty which is lost
- 7th John E. Brown James Russel Esqr Simon Terrell & the Reverend sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid Elias Allred his mark
John Bates TGC

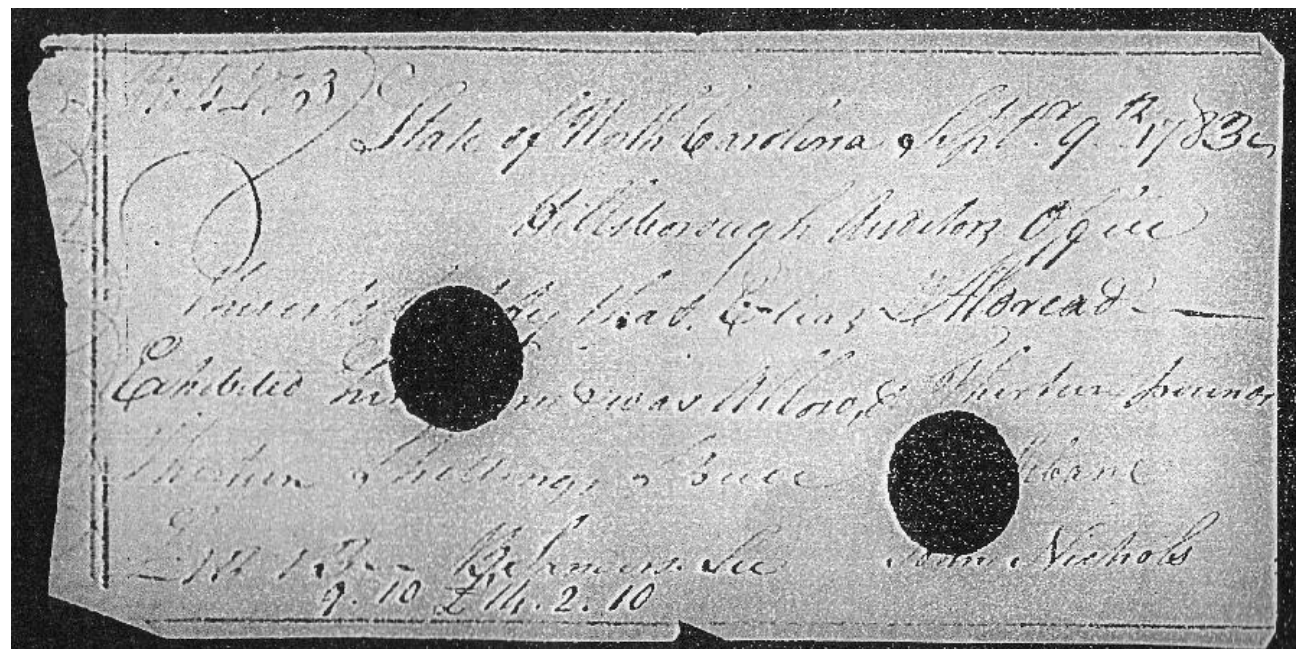
Part of the handwritten pension of Elias Allred on file at the National Archives, Washington, D.C.



The pension of Elias Allred was approved as follows:
Subscribed on the Roll of Georgia the rate of 22 Dollars
50 Cents per annum Commence on the 4th day of March
1831

Comments on Points Elias Allred Made in his Pension Application

- No. 1.** Elias was not certain whether he was born in Orange or Randolph County in 1758. He was born in Orange County and by 1775, the area was Guilford County and by 1779 the same area was Randolph County. It was Randolph County when he served in the militia.
- No. 2.** His father was Thomas Allred that kept a book of family records. It was more than likely the family Bible.
- No. 3.** Elias moved to Hall County in Northeast Georgia. He died and is buried in Lula, Hall County.
- No. 4.** During his second tour of duty, he substituted for his brother-in-law John Sitten.
- No. 5.** Green refers to General Nathanael Greene, commander of the Southern Forces under General George Washington.
- No. 6.** He was discharged by Capt. Hinds. There are various versions of the spelling of his last name, but the family had standardized it as Hinds.
- No. 7.** Note that Elias signed the pension application with a mark.



Pay voucher for Elias Allred for his militia service.

The Officers the Allred Men Served Under

Information is available about two of the officers of the North Carolina Horse Militia Unit that four Allred men and their neighbors served under. They are Col. John Luttrell and Capt. John Hinds.

Colonel John Luttrell of North Carolina

“He was ultimately swept into the Revolution, was active against the Tories, and met death at their hands. He was shot through the body at Cane Creek, North Carolina, September 13, 1781, in an engagement with the notorious David Fanning, the Tory partisan leader and died the following day.” (Draper)

Footnote regarding Col. John Luttrell, of *The Transylvania Company*, pg. 39, Boonesborough, George W. Ranck, 1901.

The battle was also known as Lindley’s Mill, Cane Creek or Hillsboro, in Alamance County, North Carolina, September 13, 1781.

Captain John Hinds

John Hinds was born about 1745 in Morris County, New Jersey. By 1775 he and his wife, Abigail, were living in that part of Guilford County that is now Randolph County where he was elected a Justice of the Peace in 1779 at the home of Abram Reese. Later Elias Allred, who served under Capt. Hinds, purchased the Reese home.

In 1779, he was also appointed adjutant of the southern part of Randolph County by Col. James Martin. In 1781/82, Hinds commanded a company of horseman in Col. Luttrell’s regiment and he raised a company under Col. J.W. Collier to protect families from the deprivations of the Tories in the area. According to Caruthers’ volume *The Old North State in 1776*, Col. John W. Collier lived about three miles southwest from Bell’s Mill which was located near the mouth of Muddy Creek and the west end of Deep River. Following the Revolution, Hinds moved to Knox County, Tennessee, where he died some time between 14 Sep 1810 when he made his will, and January 1811 when it was proved.

It appears Capt. Hinds fought at the battle of Guilford Courthouse where his brother, Simeon, was killed while serving under him. The papers of Captain Hinds were in possession of his family members for several years. They are now part of the Kathleen Parkman Lamb Collection at the McClung Historical Collection, Knox County Public Library System, Tennessee. The following are some of the lists of rosters kept by Captain Hinds.

List of the Co[mpany] which served under Capt. John Hinds in Randolph Co. in 1781 by order of Co[l]. Collier
John Hinds, Captain, William Benge, W.W. York, Lieut. Richard Dafforn, Abraham Casterlin, Micheal Coffarn, Jesse Stroud, James Cowan, Phillip Seglar, David

Browder, Elias Wilborn, James Morgan, Y.C. Croft, Henry Civet, “All of which have served their time and received discharge for such Service”

‘All whose names are inserted here have served agreeable to the Militia [?] and have discharged and received discharges for such service.”

William Billingsley, William McMaster, Robert Shenaker, Benjamin Robertson, Joshua Wright, George Hopper, John Diffe, Abraham Elliot, Joseph Hinds, Edward Hendrickson, Benjamin Williams, Caleb Wilborn, Robert ? Hendrix, Jacob Hendrix, Robert Duncan.

Allreds on the Roster

“List of Capt. John Hinds Co. that completed a Tour of duty in the Regiment of horsemen, commanded by Co. Luttrell by order of the Board of War in the year 1780, form 27, and expired in Feb. 27, 1781.

John Hinds, Capt. Reuben Wood, **Lieut. John Alred**, Peter Wright, W.W. York, E, Joshua Wilborn, Elias Wilborn, Samuel Hinds, James Cowan, Stephen McClellan, Abraham Casterlin, Sr., Simeon Geren, Hiram Geren, **Wm. Alred, Sergt., James Alred**, Henry Seglar, William Riggins, Philip Seglar, Caleb Frasure, Jeremiah York, James Riggans, George Coanel, Barnett Crabtree, John York, Hugh Gavin, William Diffe ? Anthony Reins, John White, Thomas Welborn, Isaac Welborn, Henry Cicit,(Kivett?) **Elias Alred**, Ezekelle Croft, William Ellis, Simeon Hinds, _____* _____* “

*Two names not legible because of a hole in the original copy. See the opposite page 9 for the copy written by Capt. John Hinds.

The Allred Men

Lieut John Allred was the fourth son of Thomas Allred. **Wm. Allred, Sergt.**, was the second son of Thomas and Elizabeth Allred.

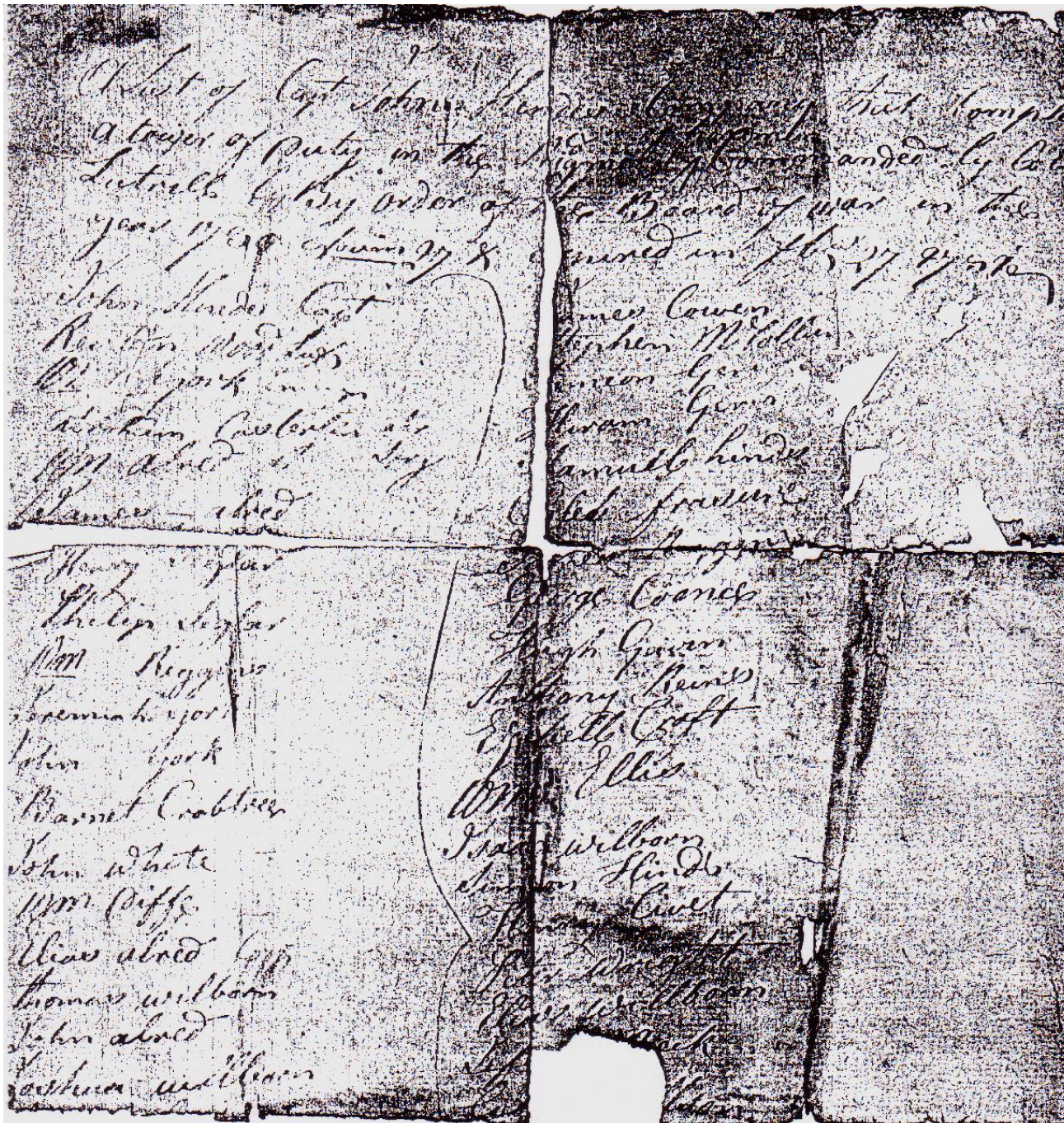
James Allred, was the first son of Thomas and Elizabeth Allred.

Elias Allred, was the third son of Thomas and Elizabeth Allred.

Thomas Allred, the father, of James, William, Elias, and John, served as a Regulator served with his brothers William and John in the early 1770s. This was a movement to regulate the tax collectors. These men usually came a few times a year instead of one time and this put a heavy burden on the citizens.

About ten years after the Regulator movement where their father and uncles were involved, the four Allred brothers served together during their three month militia duty. Plus they were often called upon to fight against Tory activity in their area of central North Carolina during the American Revolution and also after the Patriot victory at Yorktown, Virginia, in October 19, 1781.

List of Capt. John Hinds Co.



The papers of Captain John Hinds are from the Kathleen Parkman Lamb Collection at the McClung Historical Collection, Knox County Public Library System, Tennessee.

Enlargement of the name of Wm Alred on the List of the Company of Capt John Hinds written by Capt. Hinds. Note above, the names of Wm Alred, James Alred, Elias Alred and John Alred. The roster was written by Capt. John Hinds or his clerk.

Wm. A. Reed

What the History Books Say About the Skirmish at Trading Ford on the Yadkin River

Report of the British Lt. Col Banastre Tarleton

From A History of the Campaigns of 1780 and 1781, in the Southern Provinces of North America by Lieutenant-Colonel [Banastre]Tarleton

Commandant of the Late British-Legion. London: Printed to T. Cadell, in the Strand. M.DCC.LXXXVII. [1787] He [Earl Cornwallis] reached Salisbury on the 4th [actually it was February 3], where some emissaries informed him, that General [Daniel] Morgan was at the Trading Ford, but had not passed the river: Brigadiergeneral O'Hara was directed to march to that place, with the guards, the regiment of Bose [Hessians] and the cavalry. Owing to rain, darkness, and bad roads, the troops did not arrive at the Yadkin till near midnight. After a *skirmish*, it was discovered that Morgan's corps had crossed in the evening, leaving a detachment of riflemen to protect some wagons and stores belonging to country people, who were fleeing with their effects, to avoid the British army. General O'Hara having made a fruitless effort to get possession of the flats and large boats upon the river, took post with the infantry on the ground which commanded the ford and the ferry, and sent back the cavalry to Salisbury. A heavy rain swelled the Yadkin the succeeding day and night, and General Morgan remained on the eastern bank, facing the British troops.

Earl Cornwallis finding that he could not attempt the Trading Ford, on account of the advantageous position of the enemy and depth of the river, detached the cavalry, supported by the 23rd regiment, on the afternoon of the 6th, to reconnoitre Grant's Creek, and the country beyond it.

The Cowpens-Guilford Courthouse Campaign, by Burke Davis, University of Pennsylvania Press, Philadelphia, page 95.

On Feb. 3, after a hard morning's march through overflowing creeks and on miserable roads, Cornwallis reached Salisbury. It was still raining, and the weather was bitterly cold at night. Tories told the British that General Morgan was still crossing the Yadkin seven miles to the north, at Trading Ford, and General O'Hara was hurried off with a special command: the Guards, the Bose Regiment, and the cavalry. His orders were to prevent Morgan's crossing and to destroy captured baggage of the enemy.

The poor roads, rainfall, and darkness kept O'Hara on the march until midnight, when he reached the ford. Rifle fire broke out in the darkness, and the Guards were put into files and sent forward. The enemy disappeared,

except for a few who were taken prisoner; these men gave O'Hara bad news: Morgan had already crossed the river, and Greene with him; the Americans had gone across on flatboats which had been gathered from up and down the river and were now on the far side, under a bluff which concealed the retreating army. The few wagons caught by the British belonged to the refugees, and the scattered rifle fire had come from a rear guard left to protect them. The last of the Americans had now gone to the north bank.

The Rowan Story: 1753-1953, A Narrative History of Rowan County, North Carolina, by James S. Brawley, 1953, Salisbury, North Carolina, Rowan Printing Company, page 80.

The next day, February 3rd, Cornwallis arrived in town and sent General O'Hara ahead to intercept any of Morgan's army that might not have crossed the river. When O'Hara arrived at Trading Ford, it was getting dark. Morgan had passed his regulars and baggage over by that time, but there remained 150 militiamen and some wagons of Davidson's force from Cowan's Ford. Perceiving the approach of the British, the militia formed a half-mile from the ford near a branch, and there awaited O'hara.

As the Americans were crouched low along the branch, the silhouettes of the English against the darkening sky offered the militia good targets. The Americans commenced firing when the enemy came within 60 yards and were in turn fired upon by the British who coolly formed their battle positions. The militiamen after giving a good account of themselves easily made good their retreat across the river in the darkness.

More Sources on the Skirmish on the Yadkin and the Southern Campaign of the American Revolution

Randolph County, 1779-1979, published by the Randolph County Historical Society, 201 Worth St., Asheboro, NC 27203, 1970.

Hugh F. Rankin, Greene and Cornwallis: The Campaign in the Carolinas. Raleigh: NC Division of Archives & History, 1976

Phillips Russell, North Carolina in the Revolutionary War, Charlotte, NC: Heritage Printers, Inc. 1965

In addition to information on the Trading Ford and the 1781 skirmish on the Yadkin River, this Web site has links to other American Revolution information: www.tradingford.com

Letters About the Skirmish to George Washington and Thomas Jefferson

Major General Nathanael Greene to George Washington

Camp Guilford Court House [N.C.] Feb: 9th 1781.
Sir

Since I wrote your Excellency by Major Giles, Lord Cornwallis has been constantly in pursuit of the Light Infantry and the prisoners, and is now between the Shallow Ford upon the Yadkin and Salem, one of the Moravian towns; and still pushing into the country with great rapidity.

The moment I was informed of the movements of Lord Cornwallis I put the army in motion on Pedee and left it under the command of Brig. Gen^r [Isaac] Huger and set out to join the Light Infantry in order to collect the Militia and embarrass the enemy 'till we could effect a junction of our forces.

General [Daniel] Morgan after the defeat of Tarlton [Banastre Tarleton] had very judiciously made forced marches up into the Country and happily crossed the Catawba the evening before a great rain, which prevented the enemy from following him for several days, during which time the prisoners were got over the Yadkin and on their march for Dan River, which I hope they have passed and are in Virg.

On my arrival at the Lt. Infantry Camp I found them at Sherards [Sherrald's] Ford on the Catawba. The enemy were a little lower down the river at McCowan's [Cowan's] Ford, and the river still so high that they could not cross. We made the best disposition we could to stop them when the river should fall. But the fords were so numerous, and our force so small that we could not effect it. Gen^r Davidson who had great influence among the Mecklenberg & Roan [Rowan County] Militia had made use of all the arguments in his power to get the Militia into the field, but without effect. They had been so much in service and their families so distressed that they were loth to leave home even on the most pressing occasion. The enemy crossed at McCowan's Ford where Gen^r Davidson was posted with the greatest part of the Militia who fell by the first discharge. The enemy made good their landing, and the Militia retreated. A place of rendezvous was appointed for the Militia to collect at, who were posted at the different fords up and down the river above 30 miles. Part of them halted at Mr^s Tarrences [Torrence's] about seven miles short of the place of rendezvous, and were over taken by Tarlton & dispersed. I waited that night at the place appointed for the Militia to collect at, untill morning, but not a man appeared. The light Infantry continued their march to Salisbury and crossed the Yadkin. But before we got over all the

baggage and stores the enemy were at our heels. **A pretty smart skirmish happened between a party of our riflemen and the advance of the enemy near the ford.** We had secured all the boats, and the river was so high that the enemy could not follow us.

Citation: *The Papers of General Nathanael Greene*, ed. Major General Nathanael Greene to Dennis Conrad et al. (Columbia, S.C.: Model Editions Partnership, 1999). Full texts of documents calendared in *The Papers of General Nathanael Greene* (Chapel Hill, N.C.: University of North Carolina Press, 1994), Vol. 7, pp. 152-289. <http://adh.sc.edu> [Accessed May 20, 2006].

Gen. Edward Stevens provided more details of the crossing and skirmish in a 8 February, 1781, letter to Gov. Thomas Jefferson

The Great Quantity of Rain that fell the night before raised the River in such a manner as made it difficult to Cross even in Boats. General Greene with a small Party of Horse was still at Salisbury, Pushing out the remainder of the Stores from that place to the Tradeing Ford which was effected that night, except some few old musketts which were unfit for service.... **On the evening of the 3rd Inst. the enemy appeared at the River tho by this time we had Completed Crossing all to a Waggon or Two and those they paid Pretty dear for, as there was a Party of Virginia Rifflemen of about a Hundred under the Command of Major [David] Campbell, and a small party of North Carolina Militia Horse [about 50 men including James, William, Elias and John Allred] was formed in ambush to receive them with Orders to give them a fire or Two and then Disperse down the River and Cross in Canoes which they executed very well and with but a very Triffleing loss on their part.** (Boyd, *Jefferson Papers*, 4: 561-62)

Joseph Graham, who served with the mounted militia that carried out the ambush, wrote in his memoirs that the militia lost two men killed; British losses were unknown, but "from the appearances of blood in different places, [were] believed to be ten or twelve." (Graham, *Graham*, pp. 300-301) According to Graham, the wagons that the British captured had been used by militiamen to haul their baggage from Cowan's Ford. Banastre Tarleton concurred, calling the captured items "waggon and stores belonging to country people." (Ibid., p. 301; Tarleton, *Campaigns*, p. 227)

State of No. Carolina March 10th 1782 No. 127
 Randolph County
 This May certify that as Commissioner
 for the County aforesaid I have purchased from
 William Allred Junr provisions (seal) at the prices ascertained in
 Spanish Milled Dollars by Resolve of Congress Dated
 The 25th of February 1781 amounting to Ten and
 a fourth — Spanish Milled Dollars Which sum
 is to bear interest at six per Cent untill paid —
 agreeable to an act of General Assembly in such Case
 made Witness Wm Bell C Commissioner

State of No. Carolina
 Randolph County

March 10th 1782 No. 127

This may certify that as Commissioner for the County aforesaid I have purchased
 from—

William Allred Junr provisions (seal) at the prices ascertained in Spanish Milled Dollars by
 Resolve of Congress _____

The 25th of February 1781 amounting to Ten and a fourth—Spanish Milled Dollars Which sum
 is to bear interest at six per Cent untill paid—agreeable to an act of General Assembly in such
 Case

made Witness Wm Bell C Commissioner

*Pay voucher for William Allred for the militia service that he completed in February 1781. He is
 listed as William Allred, Junior.*

There are also some vouchers for William Allred, Senior, the man referred to as the “original Will-
 iam.” Even though these two Williams were not father and son, if there were two people in the same
 family with the same name, the older was referred to as senior and the nephew or cousin was referred
 to as junior.